

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3187
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
SAFETY OF DAMS
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;SUDHA YADAV

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of major dams in the country located in the seismic zones;
- (b) whether any survey has been conducted as to whether these dams can withstand the fury of earthquake of the magnitude to the one that struck Gujarat; and
- (c) if so, the outcome of the survey and the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

- (a) The country has been divided into 5 seismic zones depending on the intensity of earthquake likely to occur and a total of 3596 dams are located in these zones.
- (b) The aseismic design of dams is governed by Bureau of Indian Standards Code 1893-1984. Some of the old dams not designed as per the current code are likely to be damaged in the event of an earthquake of the magnitude which occurred in Gujarat recently.
- (c) Dams are owned and maintained by the State Governments and, it is for the States to regularly review the safety of the existing dams as per guidelines issued by the Central Water Commission. Under the World Bank aided Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project, a few dams in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan were strengthened.